花とゆめCOMICS

Phantom Dream

Natsuki Takaya 4

花とゆめ COMICS

幻影夢想〔4〕

高屋奈月

603

白泉社

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Eiji's life hengs in the balence es fections once agein shift end reelign. Asehi struggles with her powers end pest guilts.Temeki tries to control the breekout of jeki. And e mysterious new figure emerges, but is he en elly or en enemy?

And uh.... Roka?

Woo-who... Mutsu in color!

Hello!
I dunno, somehow seeing the original cover, I feel like Hideri looks better in the original coloring...I think TP messed around w/ the colors a little too much...

Hmmm, Shahaku is androgynous alright, but I still think he looks more like a guy? What are your opinions? Does he look more a guy or a girl?

And why do they call the Jahoutsukai "predessessors"? I mean,technically Eiji and Kaname were sisters and Hyou is Tamaki's grandma, right?

Thank you for reading!
The story just gets better from here on out so I'm really gonna try really hard to have these chapters out as fast as possible, possibly every 7 days...

Happy Reading!

-Catandmouse

花とゆめCOMICS

幻影夢想

第4巻

高屋奈月

Are you...
Shahaku?
The guardian of the sepulcher?
幻影夢想
げんえいむそう

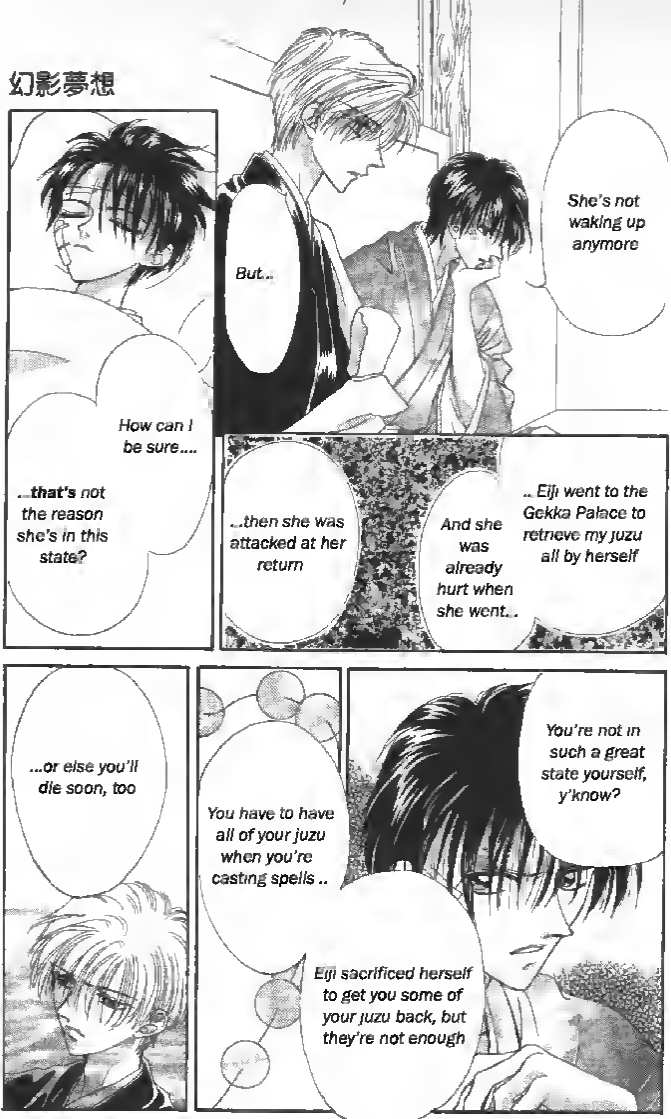
幻影夢想
—げんえいむそう—

About 1000 years ago...
...Sugekka, was murdered by humans
Afterward, her attendant and lover...
...became king of the Gekka family and used his owers to transform humans into jaki
His younger brother, Saga, retaliated and became the Shugoshi for the Otoya family in order to protect humans
Now Tamaki, who inharited the power of the Shugoshi...
...must avert a naw crisis and fight Hira, who haa secretely survived for 1000 yaars
Tamaki's girifriend, Asahi, awoke to become the reincarnation of Sugekka and went to Hira's side
And then somebody from the Gekka family stole his juzu, which protects his body from the strain of casting spells

"When a Jahoutsukai takes on its female form, it's at the end if its life". Wasn't that how it went?
Eiji remains unconcious as she moves closer to her death
Now Eiji, tha former Jahoutsukai was attacked by humans scared of tha rise of tha jaki
But Tamaki continues to fulfill his rola,aven without his juzu...
...and at the cost of his own life, which has slowly atarted to fade
She's reached the end of her lifespan, that's all...

Ultra Special Things That Don't Matter 1

Shahaku is a man...probably (Heh) I hadn't really thought about it when I drew Shahaku. I like ambivalence, like androgyny, so. if a character appears and you think,"Ijust can't tell if it's a man or a woman...!" Please just think of them as androgynous. (Heh)


She's not waking up anymore
But..
How can I be sure....
...that's not the reason she's in this state?
.. Eiji went to the Gekka Palace to retrieve my juzu all by herself
And she was already hurt when she went..
..then she was attacked at her return
You're not in such a great state yourself, y'know?
Eiji sacrificed herself to get you some of your juzu back, but they're not enough
You have to have all of your juzu when you're casting spells ..
...or else you'll die soon, too

...I would've used it a long time ago..
...on another jahoutsukai– On Kaname-san
Aniue!
I don't want Eiji to die either! But there is nothing the Otoya's can do! We don't have any spells to prolong lives–I
If we had anything like that, then...
!
It's all because Hira is alive...
.....
It's all Hira's fault!

Tamaki-san!
What, You suddenly anemic?
C'mon, can you stand?
……
!?
Hideri...
I can't see...

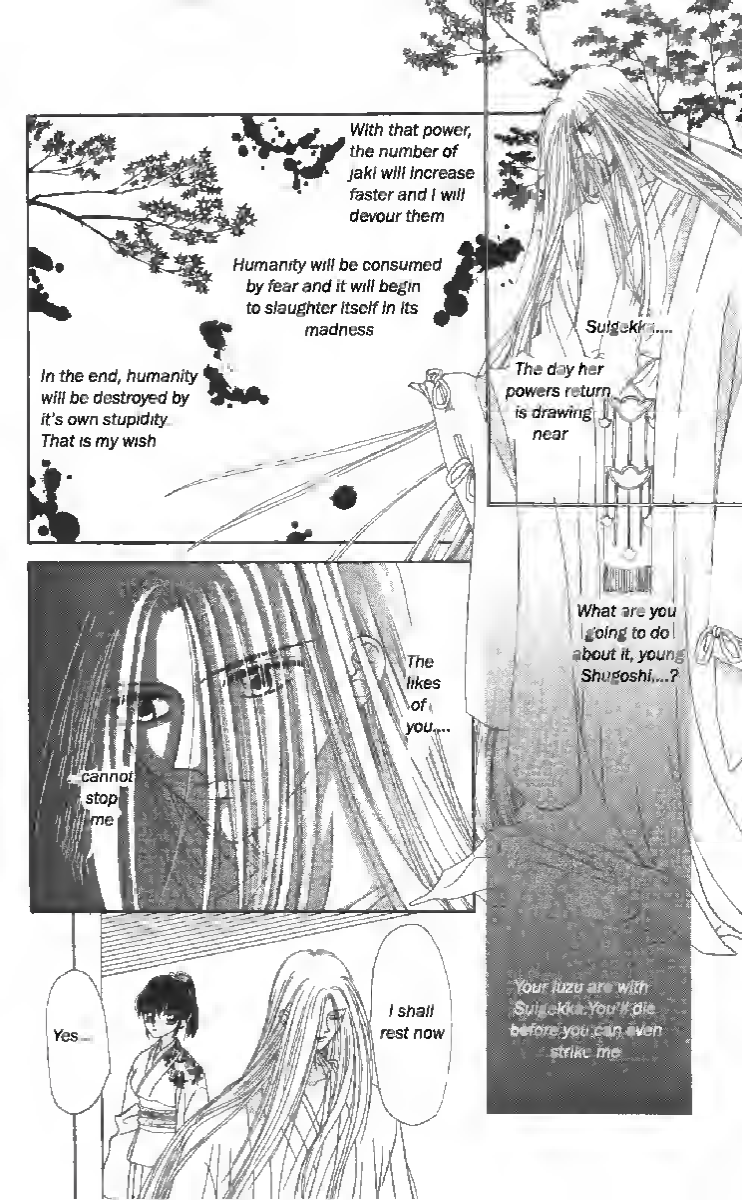
I can't...
See...
Tamaki...?
I can't see...
Anything...

Scroll 1

Nice to meet you! Hello! Takaya here. It's been a while since the last volume of Phantom Dream. Maybe about a year? Since then, Tsubasa: Those with Wings and other stuff came out, so I can't be sure. I've heard from people who only read Dream in the magazine, asking "Not yet?" but.. if nothing else, it's supposed to be 6 volumes. so it's amaaaazing! I m soooo happy! It s like that.(Like Shinohara, you know?) Thank you!

Well that s how it goes, Hideri graces the cover of volume 4! There were plenty of people who thought "It ll be Kensme-san, right?" (Heh) Now only "he" is left. Who could it be...? It's sooo obvious. it's not like I'm trying to keep it a secret either (heh).

Sudden popularity!


With that power, the number of jaki will increase faster and I will devour them
Humanity will be consumed by fear and it will begin to slaughter itself in its madness
In the end, humanity will be destroyed by it's own stupidity. That is my wish
Suigekka....
The day her powers return is drawing near
What are you going to do about it, young Shugoshi....?
The likes of you....
cannot stop me
Your fuzu are with Suigekka. You'll die before you can even strike me
I shall rest now
Yes...

.....
Mutsu... have your injuries healed?
They have
The king should greet you at least...
!
He would not stoop to familiarity with his attendants
And...
...my sins are too great
Mutsu, stop...!
I commit the crime of living...
...when Suiekka-sama did not

The sin I bear can never be forgiven
Mutsu!
You never...
Stop being so reckless and getting yourself hurt--!
.....
...understand how anyone feels, do you...?
Suigekka
Suigekka, where are you?

For 5 years we were always together...
We met when we were 8...
...and then...
...and were inseparable since then
Shugoshi...
"Goodbye"
"Goodbye Suigekka"

もう少し
We'll be separated for eternity
キリ
I'll never be...
...by his side again
"Goodbye"
My powers will return shortly
Hira....
Just a little longer...
I'm right here, Hira

.....
I...I haven't protected you at all
...I'm sorry Tamaki
Sorry..
...Tamaki...!
.....
...slipping through my fingers
...the things that are irreplaceable?
They just keep
Why is it..
...that I only lose..

Why...?!
I can't even..
..save you..
I'm so sorry
..Migiri?
I'm sorry...I I-I'm a Higoshi, but--I
I love him so much...

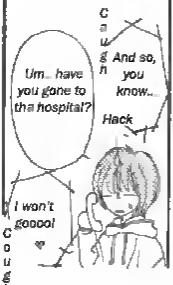
What's hard is knowing I'm going to die..
..without being able to do anything
Higoshi or not, it wasn't your fault
.. so why can't I protect him?
It's not that bad, going blind..
.. or knowing I'll die soon
Hira...
...I have to attack him

...why is it that every time I think of Hira...
...my heart aches...?
But...
The enemy.
My enemy
The enemy of humanity
I should hate him
Oh!
Again...
Is it a bell ringing?
Eeek
What happened to your hand?!
It's nothing, I just fell. What is...
!?
What's that noise?
Aniue..

Scroll 2

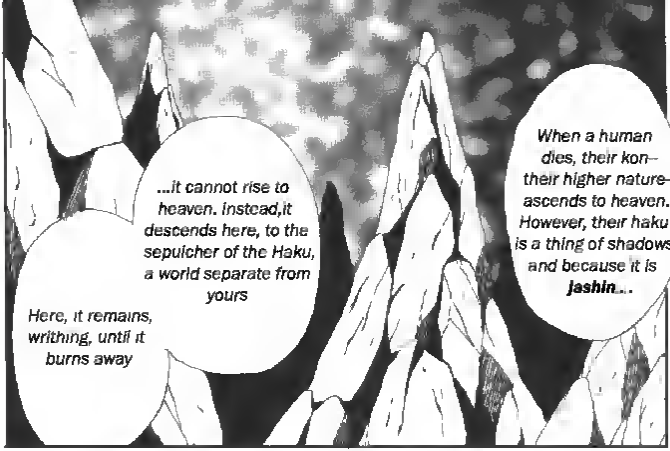
I had a bit of a fever and had to stay in bed. Of course, it happened just as a deadline was approaching. I guess the root of the problem is that I'm sickly or have a weak body or something. I get a lot of fevers and I tend to be anemic. Before I started high school I used to throw up a lot. I think that was because of the stress, but... that doesn't change the fact that I'm kind of ditzy! But there's lots of people who are less healthy than me, so I don't think I'm very convincing. Yep. They get so sick that it's not even funny, and every once in a while I get scared (heh). Take care of yourself, everybody!

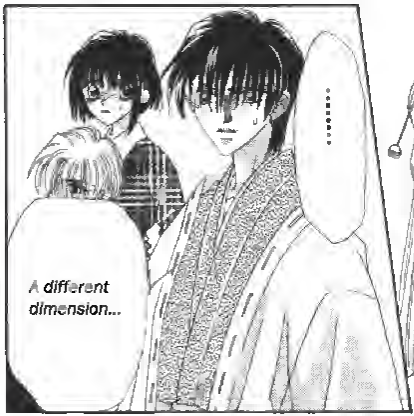
Take the case of a certain manga creator.



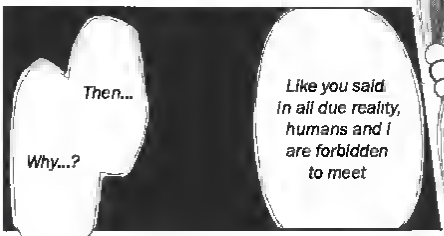
.....
!!
Who are you..?!
One of the Gekka–?!!

!!
H-
Huh?
What's going–
What is this–?!
It's jashin!
Human souls are divided into kon and haku, the yin and the yang


When a human dies, their kon– their higher nature– ascends to heaven. However, their haku is a thing of shadows, and because it is **jashin**...
...it cannot rise to heaven. Instead,it descends here, to the sepulcher of the Haku, a world separate from yours
Here, it remains, writhing, until it burns away


.....
A different dimension...

I am the guardian of the Sepulcher
My name is Shahaku


Then...
Why...?
Like you said in all due reality, humans and I are forbidden to meet

You .
Are you blind?
Shugoshi...
I would like to save the maiden known as Elji, but–
What?!
It is... uncommon for the haku of one on the verge of death to descend here
However, this maiden has been snared by a certain powerful jashin, and her kon has likewise fallen
With her kon here, she will never be reincarnated. That fate will not come to pass
I am the guardian here, but I may not handle jashin directly. That is the way of things

...she will gain an ordinary human life
Thus I turn to you, Shugoshi
If you can succeed and save her. .
...!
Is that even possible?!
The maiden is... fortunate
There's no reason for me to refuse
No! You're not strong enough right now!!
Tamaki-san?!
...The Shugoshi must act alone
Wha--!
I'll do it!

Do it
Aniue!
This time, make sure..
...you protect Eiji, ok?
.....
Yeah.....

Anna you idiot!
IF ANYTHING HAPPENS TO TAMAKI-SAN, IT'LL BE YOUR FAULT--!
...
...Tamaki would just blame himself again
I know it's dangerous, but if I stopped him...
Look, it won't do any good to just sit around and wait...
I get it
I don't want him...
...to protect the people in Tamaki's absense
...So we have to use our defensive spells...
. to continue to fall apart

The jashin that has taken the maiden's haku and kon is named **Hyou**
"Named"?
Those with inhuman jashin in life...
...sometimes descend with their former personality intact
Yes...
.....
This place is drenched in jashin, but...
...Hyou still stands out...
You must face Hyou using your own power
I know...
...
Hyou is one such being...
...and is before you even as we speak

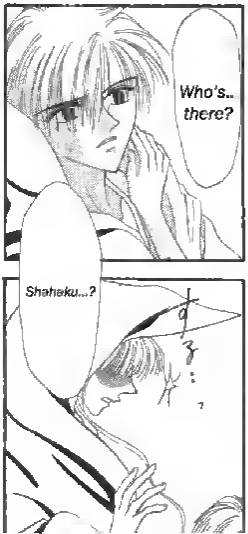
Shugoshi...? What happened to Souetsu?
!?
He... He was my predecessor My grandfather What do you know of him?!
I would like for you to release Eiji's haku and kon–
I am the Shugoshi
I'm a Jahoutsukai who descended here...
...because he exorcised me
Hyou...

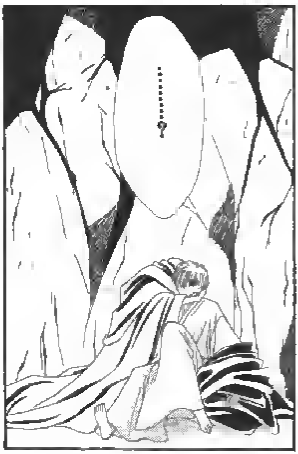
!?
However, I'm not about to hand Eiji over to you!
I see... It's an honor to meet the current Shugoshi
A Jahoutsukai...! My mother's and Eiji's predecessor?!
That's how I bore Kaname,too
Eiji is my toy! When Jahoutsukai take their female form they cast a fertiization spell and bear their successors
But my gift as a Jahoutsukai was the strenght of my jaryoku!
I survived the birth of Kaname and went on to bear Eiji
!
I see
Hyou doesn't know that my mom defected to the Otoya familyof her own free will...
But she went ahead and got herself exorcised by Souetsu too...

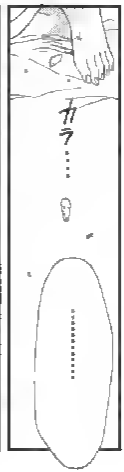
Eiji will bow down and without fear of death and beg for my forgiveness!
I'm free to do whatever I please with it
Accept that thing as my successor....? Ha! Never! it is merely a toy for me to play with!
But after all that, Eiji's body and powers were worthless
That time... When I first met him, he was hurt all over
Was that because Hyou had beaten him...?
Was it Hyou all along...?!
Shichibou!!!
Ngh!

What's wrong? Aren't you supposed to save that Jakeutsukai, your enemy?
You worthless hypocrite
My body aches all over
.....
To King Hira, whose beloved was torn apart...
Disappear!!!
...The Oteya are just weaklings with filthy ideals...!

No one will ever free you from me...
Ooh, what a shame
There's no one who'll save you now, Eiji
……


Who's.. there?
Shaheku...?


……?

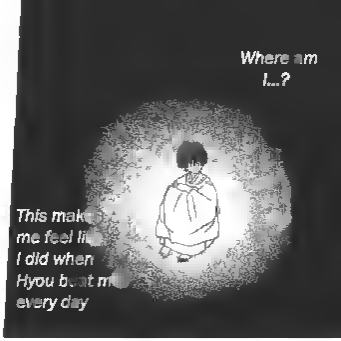

……

Shahaku..?
Am I wrong...?
It hurts...
.....

I-I...
.. am...

..the one who died... A thousand years ago

Su... Suigokka


Where am I...?
This mak... me feel li... I did when ... Hyou b... m... every day

I can hear a voice
A terrifying voice

There's no one who'll save the likes of you...

...Yes, Really
Really...?
Suigekka?!
!?
Be...
Suigekka's here...?!
Because of... the fate you suffered...?
You had..
...no choice but to hate people
Two people who were in love...
...and were torn apart like that...
No choice but being filled with jashin....
...is that it...?

. . I'm a Shugoshi, and...
But...
"You worthless hypocrite"
...a Shugoshi exists
...to protect humanity...!
My heart aches...
How...
...could they **not** hate humanity?
. every time I think of Hira

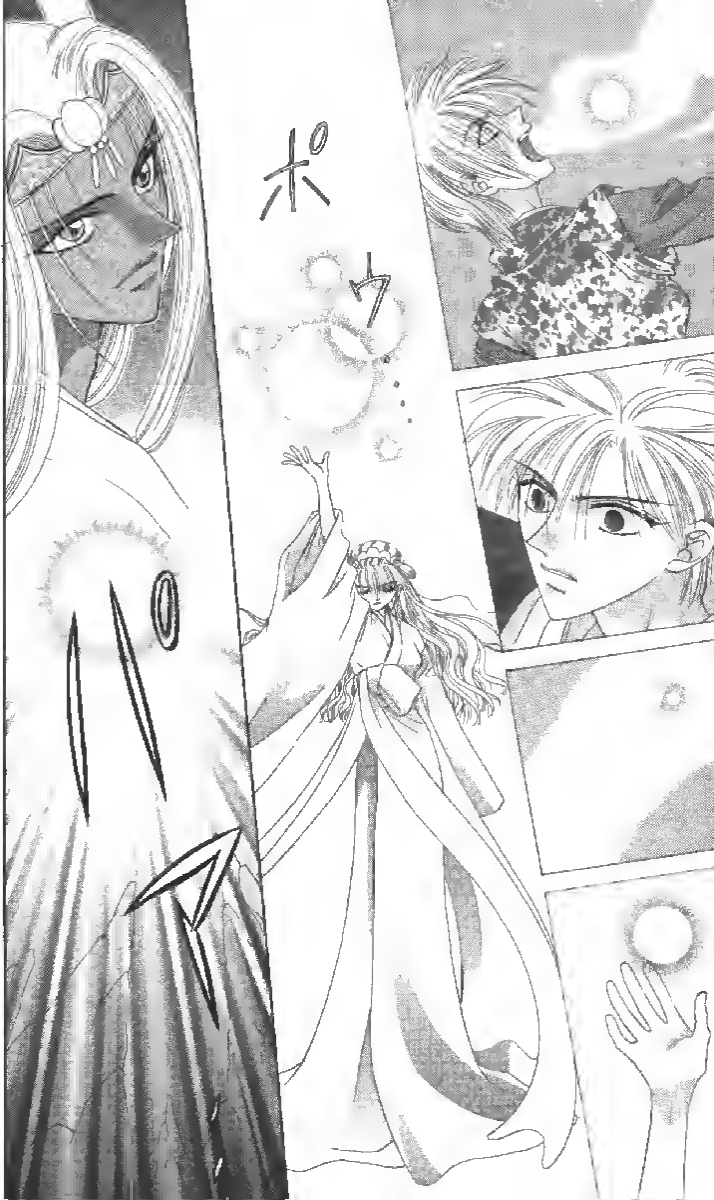
Now, that girl you're trying to save...Eiji...
She must be waiting, too
You must be loved by.. many more people than you might think
Please don't doubt..
..the path you've chosen
The girl who is your reincarnation..
She's... At Hire's side now
She must be waiting for **you**, so go
You'll be airight if you stay on this path
.....

I can't see right now, but you feel....
..and sound so much like her
Is that right...?
I'm glad. That girl... Probably loves Hira too
More than anyone..
...more than anyone in the world...
...she loves...!

I thought you had given up...
"Eiji must be waiting for you .."
...and I don't want to lose any more than I've already lost
I don't know what this will do to my body
I just have a few juzu beads. .
The people who've risked their lives to protect me ..
Shichibouujin!
No one else!
No one else .

Hidden slash...
?
She doesn't feel pain
Ngh?!
You brat...!
Shichiboujin!
Eiji

Eiji....
Come back...
Come back


ポ
ワ

I sense a slight jashin, but...she will most be quieter after this
Shuhaku...? What about Hyou?
The maiden is no longer in danger
You...can control life and death so easily..?
It is finished...
.....
Eiji...?
However, it has nothing to do with you
.....
Depart now Your duty has been fulfilled
You will not return to these lands until the day you die and your haku descends
.....
Not with my power alone. A heavy price must be paid for this

It's already dark
Tamaki-san has been gone too long..
.....
Please...
...thank Suigekka for me
Are you hurt..?! How are you feeling?!
Tamaki-san, you should go lie down...!
Nii sama, what about Eiji-san...?
Oh..!
Nii-sama...!!!

I think...I was succesful ..
I wonder why I was able to use my spells so easily...?
Tamaki-san...!
Tamaki...?
Eiji's awake--!

Welcome back...
.....
Welcome back, Eiji

...the omnipotent girl-child reborn?
Did you hear that...
You ask for the impossible. Is this Eiji of such impotance?
...you who are...
.....
.....
Because Asahi is the most horrible...
It's not that. I did this for myself...
...because I'm horrible..

Hiden...
I...
..you will most likely...
. . .only make your affections grow
If you wound yourself...
.. by thinking of him...

I .. kinda get it
Kinda, anyway
Everyone...
. but.. How should I put it. .
I don't mean that I pity him or that I won't attack him...
I don't think I can see Hira as completely evil
...lets their feelings flow to other people...
...Secretly...
H_ will never, never...
Mutsu
The king will be making his move the day after tomorrow

So, should we go celebrate Eiji's return?
Seems like the thing to do
...be able to put his affections into words He knows it, but...
Tamaki-san, Anjue--! Dinner is ready!
Come on!
Everyone ...
...by allowing their feelings...
...to flow into others
...Wounds themselves...

Hello!
Here bringing you another chapter of Phantom!
*Sorry for the delay but I was having some issues with Zig*Zag and I have started to work so my days off/free have decreased a lot...*
Thus it brings me to my next point, I really need help in cleaning the raws for Phantom, if anyone can help that will reduce the time I spend working on the chapters and it'll make things go much faster, so if there is anyone out there (or a couple of people out there) who can help me, I would really appreciate it!

PS. Asahi was right when she said last chapter that she was horrible, she really is! I'm not saying why, but maybe you can figure out why I said that after reading this chapter!

Enjoy!

幻影夢想
げんえいむそう

**In Buddhism, there are 10 sins which are rooted in 3 different types of action, physical, verbal and mental

What's wrong with them?!
Nooo! Help me...!
...and will suffer from the so called that result.
People will always sin in thought, word or deed...
Eeee

With my words I compel thee to appear
Jou. Kou Retsu. Sho
Sorry. I let my guard down
That'll happen when you can't s... And being tired doesn't help either
You keep exorcising jaki and they just keep coming
Bind and protect!

Her lover,Hira then crowned himself King of the Gekkes, wanting to turn humans into jeki
His younger brother, Saga, took the reigns of the Otoya family and became the Shugoshi in order to protect the humans
And now Tamaki, the son of both bloodlines, inherited the powers of the Shugoshi and must now fight against Hira, who has survived for 1000 years
At this rate...
...things are not looking good
...I feel Hira's jaryoku getting stronger every day
The air is so strained and heavy...
...let's go
Yeah....
About 1000 years ago ..
...lived a girl named Suigekks who was believed to be all-powerful, and she was killed by humans

There has been a new outbreak of violence at a concert hall
We interrupt our regular programming to bring you these breaking news
There have been over 100 such incidents, but the cause is still unknown People are growing more and more uneasy
On location, now...
No doubt about it–Hira's jaryoku is getting stronger
. .is consuming the world extremely fast
His jaryoku....
Tamaki-san..!

...I'm going to attack Hira, before it's too late
It's just not working out. As soon as this is over....
Jaki keep pouring into Japan, and...
...blood gets spilled somewhere
I exorcise and exorcise them...
...but they just keep coming
Before his jaryoku swallows the whole world...
...I will attack him

But for today, just get some rest
Wait
Wai...!
I'll go with you, of course
Do you know how many spells you cast today?
You'll have to wait till tomorow. If you go now, you'll collapse
When someone dies, their soul... ...and enters the ...of the guardian Shahaku
She probably...
...returned them
.....
I'm glad I got my juzu back...

I went there to save Eiji's kon and haku, both of which had fallen
That's where I met her
Sulgekka, who livec 1000 years ago
She must heve....

..her voice and her presence were so much.... like Asahi's...
Her essence...
Sheheku said that people who hed very strong jashin in life....
...descend into the Sepulcher with their appearance and personality intact

...but...
...she told me...
...to trust in the path I've chosen

That means Sulgekka must have heted humans so much at the time of her death...

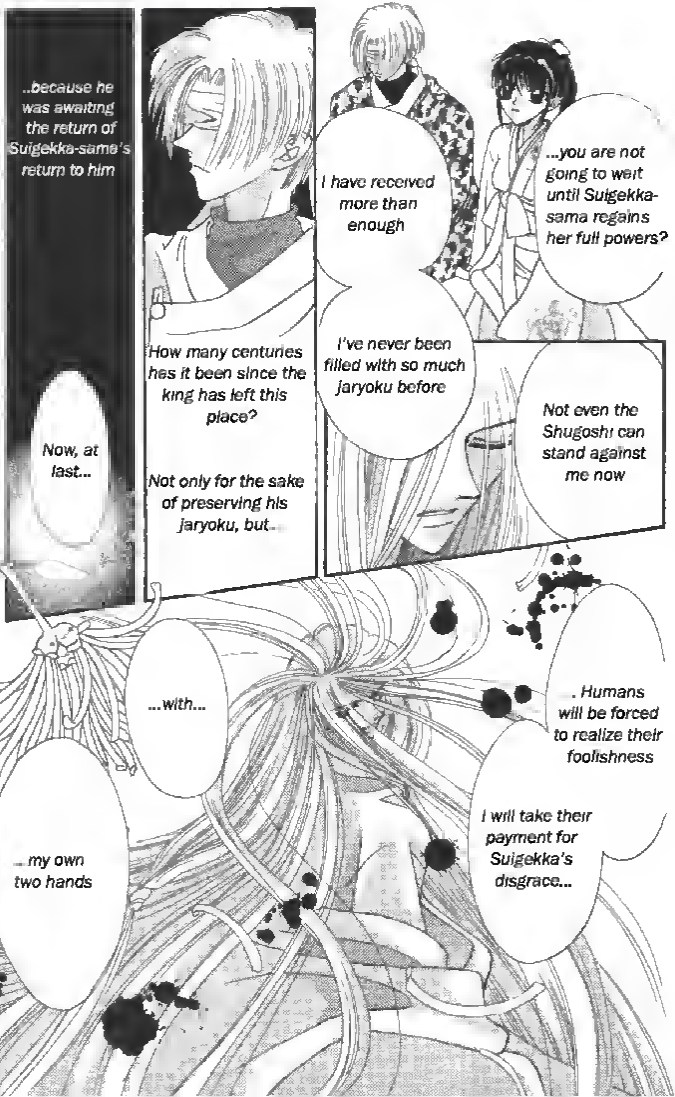
Hira..

I've seen...
...the way people who had become jaki cried
We can't ignore the fact that Tamaki-san is at a disadvantage
He's completely exhausted and blind
...was torn from the one he loved...
...and was devastated by humanity
But I want to believe...
...because I've seen human nature
...she's making Hira's jaryoku stronger
As Suigekka's reincarnation...
On top of that, Asahi is with Hira

But there's no going back now...

King Hira is no longer alone...
Staring won't make it go any faster, Mutsu
Suigekka-sama began her meditation 2 days ago
Her omnipotence will finally return
I just wanted to see that delightful figure again
Is that you, Roka..?
You've always been mannish compared to her, hmm? Hardly a woman at all
. Stop talking nonsense Hurry it up– The king is calling you

King Hira...
...Please be careful around Asahi
I fear she may betray you and return to the Shugoshi's side at any time
Suigekka would never betray me. That's impossible
Mind your words. Jyuge
We shall descend from the mountain tomorrow,as planned
.....
You are dismissed
I can never forgive her! Anyone but her...
Asahi...!!!!


...because he was awaiting the return of Suigekka-sama's return to him
Now, at last...
How many centuries has it been since the king has left this place?
Not only for the sake of preserving his jaryoku, but...
I have received more than enough
...you are not going to wait until Suigekka-sama regains her full powers?
I've never been filled with so much jaryoku before
Not even the Shugoshi can stand against me now
...with...
... my own two hands
... Humans will be forced to realize their foolishness
I will take their payment for Suigekka's disgrace...

...it's time for my powers to return, right?
Finally. .
When the Shugoshi appears, bring him to me
i shall cut him to pieces and cast him aside
Shahaku...
What I desire...
...is absolute nothingness
The fissure in the sepulcher has reached its breaking point
There is no more time

I understand. I'll have taken care of things by then...
...and I will keep my promise
When morning comes, you will no longer be able to use your power
By dawn it will be completely open
Before that happens... I will have you keep your promise
Shahaku!
...I shall count on it
Thank you...
...for granting my selfish wish

Jaki, is it...
It is enough that somathing like jashin exists in human souls
Jaryoku strenghtens it....
...and fills the Sepulchar rather than burning up and fading away
I am a liminal being, neither human nor god
I am merely the guardian of this place
Yet I am powerless to do anything
And then..
...because you said you would stop the growth of jashin...
...which has been ravaged by jaryoku
"Thank you for granting my selfish wish"

Scroll 3

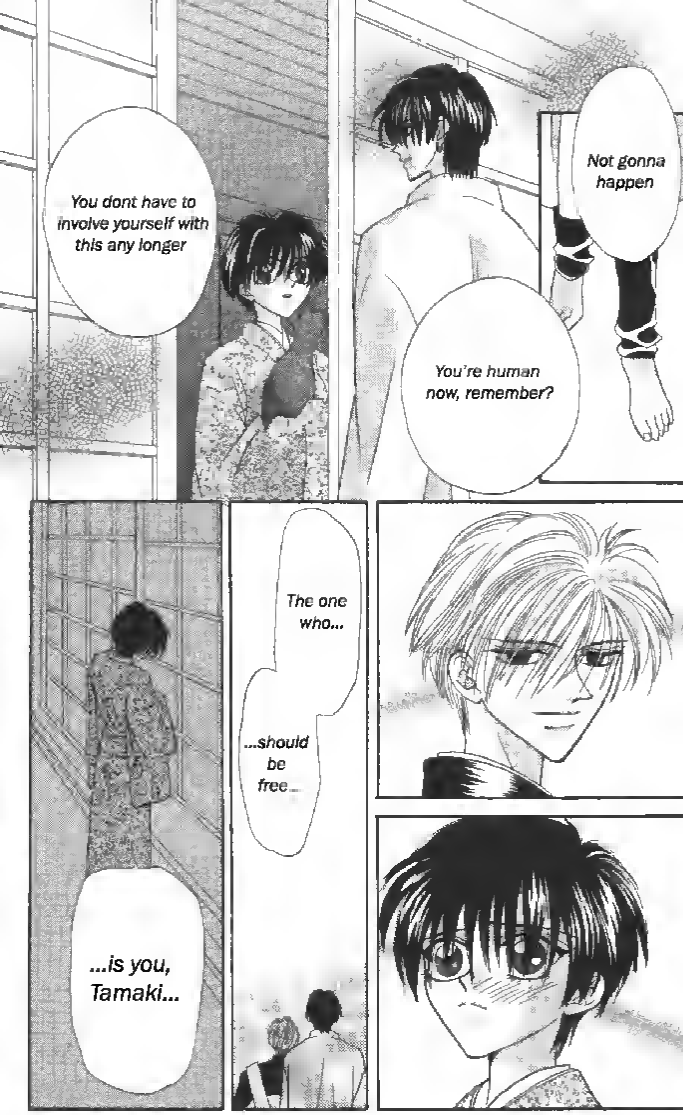
There are lots of things I like, & 1 of them is dollhouses! Dollhouses! Mini-ones I really like them, you know-I I love them! Totally crazy about them! See minis are cute They touch people s hearts. but that's enough about that (heh). The __ppen house they have in a certain place is a holy spot for me. If you go even once, see, it'll mean you've been swallowed up by dollhouses allure too. People say I'm not much of a crier, but even I tear up when I see miniatures. It's just like when I see Ka_ru-kun, and __raudo-kun you know? (Um even if you blank out letters, it's still obvious, Takaya san) I like standard-sized dollho... with 2 or more stories, an attic, stairs that really connect things (a lot of them don't have openin... on top!), hallways, windows that really open, and...and...

to be continued

I want you to have someone called the Shugoshi come and save Eiji-kun s kon and haku
You can't take direct action in matters concerning the sepulcher, right?
I need to return them to him, too
- The shu-goshi ...?
He's also the owner of these juzu
And do you know what kind of punishment you will incur...
"Asahi" or whoever you are?
After that, I want you to give Eiji-kun life
The spell of Hangon is difficult, but I know I can do it

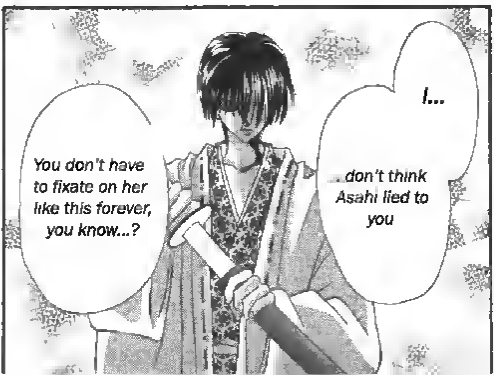
For me, who lives sorrounded by jashin...
...Today...
...will determine everything
.....
Someone as foolish as you ..
...It may very well be that it made me happy...
. .to touch such a foolish human soul

Hideri...
Look--Migiri and Tokiwa are still kids and their powers are weak, so I understand leaving them behind
Tamaki
I knew you'd try to sneak out
But I'm going with you
I'm not underestimating your powers, but.. you know how it is
.....
I'm going too
Even without my jaryoku, I can be of help!


You dont have to involve yourself with this any longer
Not gonna happen
You're human now, remember?
The one who...
...should be free...
...is you, Tamaki...

...with Hira, huh?
Asahi is probably
Do you still...
...want to die at her hands?

"Stab me in the heart"
Is that how you want to atone for taking away her happiness?


I...
...don't think Asahi lied to you
You don't have to fixate on her like this forever, you know...?

"There is nothing in this world that doesn't change, you know"
"Even people's feelings. They change too"
It's ok. .
...if things changed
I'm not blaming her
It's just that... I...
.so that's why it wants to protect you.That's what your Asahi thinks"
"After all, I..."
I am not wishing for my feelings to be returned
I'll just keep on walking on the path I've chosen
...because Asahi was everything to me
. .I don't think I can..

Hira...
...I'm coming to you now
.....

Tamaki
It's Hira!
.....
It's
Hira . !
HE'S EMERGING
FROM THE OTHER
SIDE!

ゴゴゴゴゴゴ
GAH–?!
Look at the clouds! Is a typhoon coming?
MOMMY! MOMMY!
What's going on? A blackout?!
AAAHHH!!

EEEK
Japan has been...
...completely engulfed
It's spreading.
It's no use
Where are you, Hira..?!
Hira...!

.....
Ha!
How sad that you can stop me so easily
It's because you're holding back....
..Mutsu
Gekka...!

Now is not the time to stand around staring in shock
Although it might be beyond you...
Go to the king at once
Hmmm
And what's more..
...I see that you are blind..!
!!
You must hurry, lest your precious humans..
...all die a horrible death

You can follow the jaryoku back to Hira, right?
You don't need to waste your power here
Go!
Or perhaps...
..you will challenge us first., ?
.....

I will take care of him!
Mutsu, do not interfere!
"Do it, and there will be nothing left"
"Shugoshi..."
"You would do well to attempt to exorcise all of humanity's jashin"
"The likes of humanity would dissapear forever"

"It would be best if they all returned to nothingness"
Hi...
...ra...?
AH
AA

Shichibouli!
...didn't work...!
The shield...

Hurry...
...Hira is gona now
Die....
...Asahi–!!
Hurry up and return to me, powers!
You...!
It's because of you that the king doesn't notice me!
If it weren't for you, then...!

...return to the way you used to be
!!
A path to a new life
And after you do that, please...
...Jyuge
I have something important to ask of you
My power...
Come back...!
I didn't mean...
...for it to take so long
Sooner....
...they were supposed to return as soon as I joined the Gekka family, but....
...the longer it took, the more I made everyone suffer

Get up
Today's outcome is not in question
.....
Tamaki-chan...!
All things, seen and unseen shall be controlled. All shall bow down before...
...Sulgekka's power
I shall never forget the sight of the humans who despised and sullied her power; Those who called it monstrous

I see that you are blind..
...but there are jaki at your side
Imagine the rage and resentment she must have felt as she died
Suigekka shall never again use her powers for the sake of humanity
Hira's jaryoku distracted me .
If you do not rise and defend them, I shall devour them
ヒュッ
ヒュッ
!!
ヒュッ
.....

Being attacked and hurt...
How does it feel?
.....
by the humans you want to protect?
What makes you have that blind faith in humanity that you have?
Where is the beauty you see in human nature?
.....
..does it have to be.... something specific..?
What you call... it's beauty..

DOES IT ONLY COUNT IF IT'S SOME KIND OF DIVINE GLORY???!!!
They hurt themselves and others...
...with their own jashin.
And their tears..
...those small, shining tears...
Like... Asahi used to say..
Is that wrong...?
Like tiny stars shining in the darkness...

What foolishness
...That, more than anything...
...that shine is priceless
...A phantom
All of it
I told you once before that your dreams and expectations are nothing more than...

Suigekka..?
My true power...
...has returned at last
Hira
.....!!
Asahi!!!

Is the Shugoshi unconscious?
That's what it looks like
I'm holding back right now, so you might not notice
.....?
Don't do it Asahi!
Don't give Hira any more power!
That's right, huh..?
Asahi...!!
That's right
Every time someone wanted my power
...everything shall unfold as has been pre-ordained
Now that your sacred powers have returned...
He will no longer be of any use

"Omnipotence"...
..every time they bowed their heads... Everytime you called it sacred .
...I wanted to dissapear
Most of the time her powers were unpredictable
...the real Suigekka wasn't very strong
They raised me up, but...
... how powerless she really was and come to punish her
...Suigekka thought everyone would realize someday...
Every time they failed, she wanted to dissapear...

That's why, when they finally came for her, Suigekka was grateful to the humans
She had been waiting for that moment and had been longing for it for a long time...
...she'd...
...wish for death for a long, long time
But then all this happened
It's my fault that you turned out this way, so I'll take responsibility for it, ok?
I went to the Gekka's for this

So I could get the power to...
Sui...
....defeat you, Hira...!
gekka . ?

What the–!
Wind?
.....
He–
Hey...!

.....
Let go!
It makes me uneasy...
...defeat?
HAVE YOU GONE MAD?!
You shall... Me...?
That wind...
... came from the heavens
What are you saying, Suigekka?
Suigekka...?

After all, her soul has been reincarnated as Kisaragi Asahi
The Suigekka who loved you...
I've been Kisaragi Asahi for 17 years...
And...
...died 1000 years ago that day
...I met him
He called my name
me
And every time he rested his forehead on mine...
...his signal that meant "I love you"...

...I was so happy I could cry
The person Asahi loves has always been...
. Tamaki-chan, you know?
It's always been Tamaki-chan
I can never say...
...words like these again

Happiness . Everything that mattered...
A place...
...I can never return to
But that's ok
I can finally do something for Tamaki-chan
The sadness he's always had....
...I can finally make it go away...
Lies....

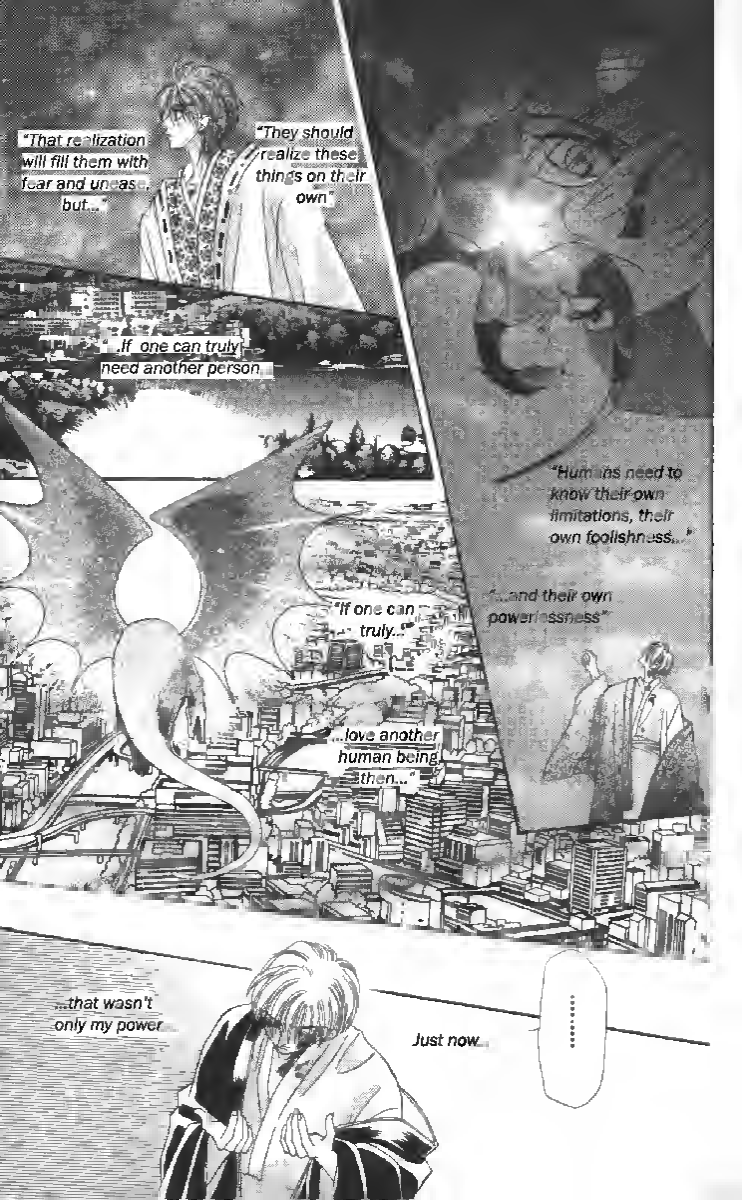
Whoever dares, I will kill them ..!
Kill them!!!
...That's fine, too
...You are not Suigekka...!
I cannot forgive anyone who dares blaspheme against her....
Asahi should suffer the same fate as Suigekka
Because people were hurt.
Because Hira was hurt
Tamaki-chan was hurt too .

Ah!
The sun's coming up!
Aah--!
ドドド
ASAHI
!!
ドドド

The giphou has been restored...!
King Hira...!
.....!!
Wh...
MUTSU!!

"This world..."
"...has no need..."
Argh...!
Fool!
Why didn't you defend the king?!
"Hira..."

"...for omnipotence"
KING HIRA...!
"Regardless of whether or not such a thing exists,
"...in this world..."
"...people will be able to live as they're supposed to"


"That realization will fill them with fear and uneas-, but..."
"They should realize these things on their own"
"...If one can truly need another person
"Humans need to know their own limitations, their own foolishness..."
"...and their own powerlessness"
"If one can truly..."
...love another human being then..."
...that wasn't only my power
Just now...
.....

Asahi...?
Asahi...
Didn't you forget about "Asahi" back then?
Why are you calling out that name?
Asahi...?
Your Asahi hurt you so, so much.
...why are you calling for me?
Asahi

What...
...were you trying to do... all alone ..?
You must have been very loneky

...crying ..?
Are you ..
B-
Because..

I saw the future
A future in which you were killed
I couldn't change anything if I stayed by your side....!
...if your Asahi had stayed . .
...Tamaki-chan would have died . .!
When the Suigekka fell into Gekka hands I decided ...
...to join them and interfere as much as I could
And I'd defeat Hira once my full powers returned
There wasn't any other way to save you, Tamaki-chan...!

But you... For me..
..you didn't say anything.. And all alone...!
But... See, I..
...!...
The time for you to fulfill your promise..
..has come
. Shahaku?
I.. used the spell of Hangon inside the Sepulcher
And even outside the Sepulcher, it's not easy to send a soul back to life...

You . Mean, Eiji's life?
Saving Eiji-kun then... ...meant saving Tamaki-chan,so...
Her power, soul and body will all descend to the Sepulcher....
And then...
.. Asahi created a fissure in the Sepulcher
If it continues to grow, the haku will pour into this world ..
...and humans will become something more wretched than jaki
She must seal the fissure using her own flesh
...and she will suffer the punishment of eternal life with no possibility of reincarnation

Asahi!!!
I meant to do this all along
It was all my Suigekka's fault...
...that you suffered as a Shugoshi...
So these "omnipotent" powers and soul should be sealed away forever...!
...That the Gekka existed and tormented humans
That's why... I wanted you to forget me, since I'm going to disappear
I hope you'll find happiness...
...in your new life Tamaki-chan

Who cares about omnipotence . !
As just a human, you...
...always...
...saved me...!!

Please don't take her away from me!
No..
No, Shahaku...
Asahi...?
Asahi...
ASAH!!!!
PLEASE DON'T TAKE HER AWAY!
.....
I don't want this .. This. .
Not this...!

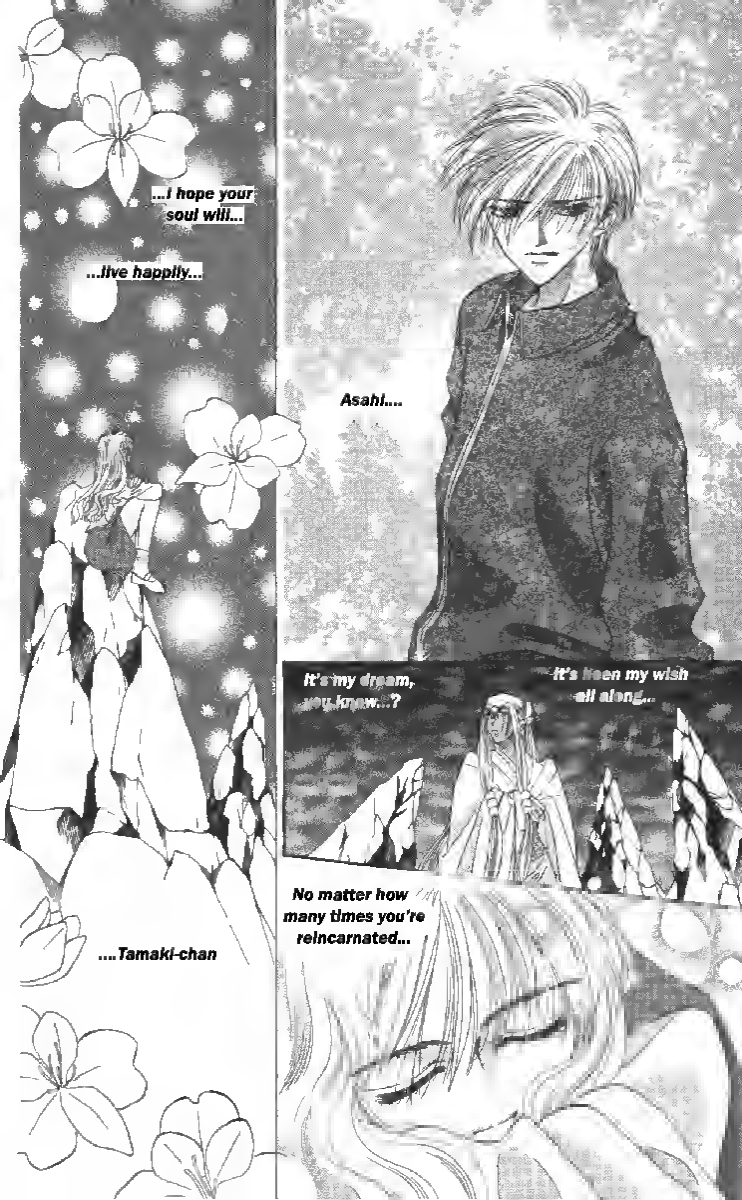
My king...
He's still breathing. He'll wake up soon...!
There has to be a way...!
I'll make him...

I think Mutsu and Roka are the only ones left, but....
Did...Hira d...?
Probably. All the jaki were exorcised then too
...Tamaki is...
It should have been me who should have descended to the sepulcher
If this is how things are going to be, why did she live at all?
...Asahi wouldn't have had to suffer alone, or meet that fate
If I'd had more power...
Why?!!

I have a delivery for you
What..?
Shugoshi .?
Jyu.. Jyuge?
.....

Somehow as time passed, I drowned myself in my own heart and jaryoku
But I have finally been freed to be who I once was
I may now walk the path to reincarnation .
Tamaki...? Your eyes...?!
And now, my duties are over
It couldn't be...
Asahi...
This. .
. this is the last of Asahi's power, left on your behalf
I was told to keep a secret, but...
"You know..."

"You know, um . the gohou..."
"...just loves you, Tamaki-chan, so that's why it wants to protect you. That's what your Asahi thinks, anyway"
Right to the end...
...until the very end...
"...that's why I'm here...!"
"After all, I love you too, Tamaki-chan, and..."
...she saves me


...I hope your soul will...
...live happily...
....Tamaki-chan
Asahi....
It's my dream, you know...?
It's been my wish all along...
No matter how many times you're reincarnated...

Hello, everybody!
So, I'm here with a proposition, if anybody wants to take it...
Since Phantom is almost over, and since Tsubasa has been left unfinished I was thinking of picking it up, the thing is that I really don't care for the story, so what I'm saying is that I have the raws for the story and if anyone wants to clean and typeset the raws, I can provide the translations, and if you want I can post the links to the series on my livejournal, so if anyone is interested, let me know...

幻影夢想
げんえいむそう

Ultra Special things that don't matter III

When I sketch him out first, I draw Mutsu's full face, but...am I the only one that thinks it's not Mutsu if his eyes aren't covered? I get the feeling that a surprising number of people support Roka (not just that she was popular) Still **Dream** is full of people w/ unrequited loves, huh? The only people who are still alive and return each other's feelings are Tamaki and Asahi, but they've been separated...

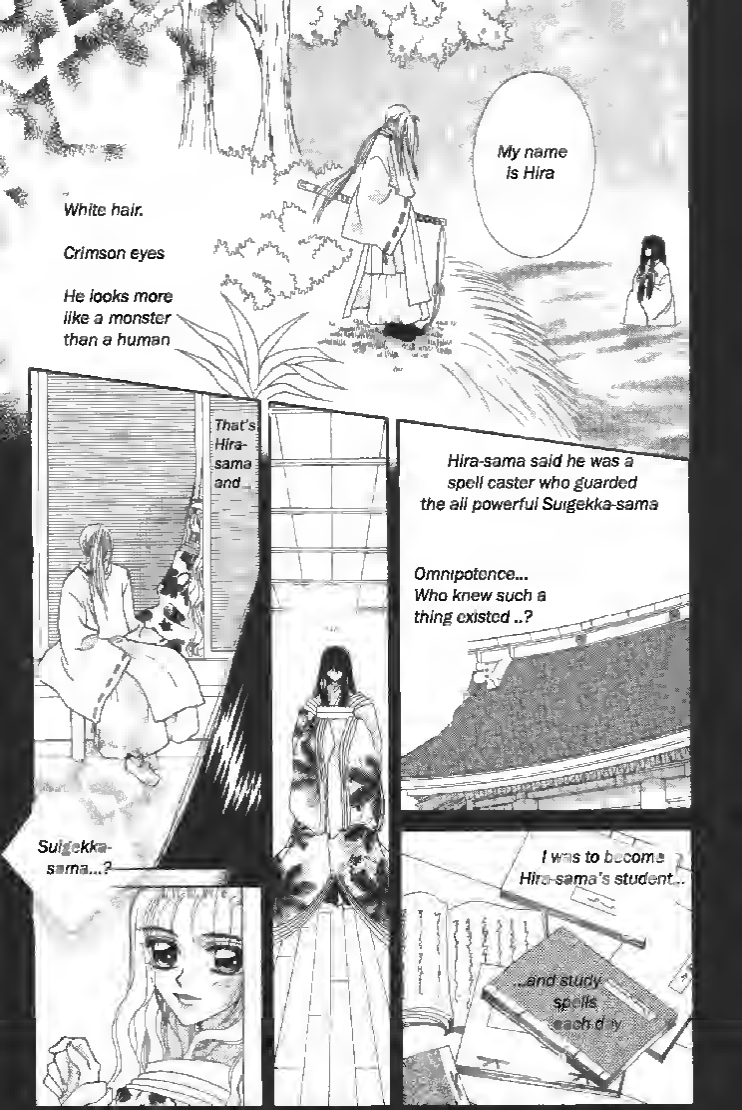
It all began 1000 years ago
After zsuigekka-sama was murdered by humans...
...Hira-sama began turning them into jaki and eating them. He became the king of the Gekka
But then he was defeated by Tamaki, the Shugoshi from the Otoya family...
...the family that carries the blood of Hira-sama's younger brother, Saga-sama
No... the truth is...
The king was defeated by Suigekka-sama, wasn't he?
By Suigekka-sama's reincarnation, Asahi...
Without Jyuge, we'll eventually die, won't we?
Even Jyuge is gone now

And King Hira...
...Will die regardless of whether or not he re-awakens
.....
...he was waiting for the day when Suigekka-sama would be reincarnated and return to his side...
...so that he could be with her once more
Above all else...
But now...
...what is left for the king's heart to turn to...?
Roka, you should try to keep still
Even though we can see the final result, we can't leave things be
I will look for a way to wake him

Lucky for you, there isn't a single scratch on my body
That's what I call needless worry
Tamaki's spell struck you on the back
If you overexert yourself, you may hasten your death
I'll go down to the world below
I might be able to find a jaki or two
.....

It all began when my father, who had lost everything and was not close to his family, fell ill and died.
As if following him, my mother soon passed away as well.
By the time I was ten, I lived in a temple deep in the mountains.
So, it seems I am going to die soon.
My flesh has begun to rot.
I don't want to be useless again!
I'd be better off dead!

Had I only been born a boy...
I did nothing
I could do nothing
...I might have been able to save my father
I might have been of use
but because of my powerlessness...
Hating myself, I continued to live
Why am I still alive? Is there any reason for me to live?
You, girl
Do you wish for death?
If your soul can find no rest...
...then will you come with me?


My name is Hira
White hair.
Crimson eyes
He looks more like a monster than a human
That's Hira-sama and...
Hira-sama said he was a spell caster who guarded the all powerful Suigekka-sama
Omnipotence... Who knew such a thing existed ..?
Suigekka-sama...?
I was to become Hira-sama's student...
...and study spells each day

Roka
How are your spells coming along?
Saga-sama...!
Oh,so those two are...
...in love...
Hira...my brother praises you highly, so you must learn them
It's hard to grasp the concept of using them
I'm not sure if I can be of use to Hira-sama...
Does that worry you?

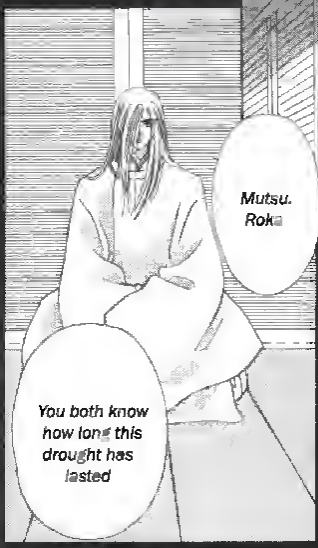
Is that true?
It will be all right
You'll find that you are of some use to someone
Kind..
Saga-sama is so kind
Yes...!
Roka
I brought Mutsu today

How much use can she be?
Mutsu also serves me
...it is only a **woman**
Oh...
What help can a mere woman offer?
Shouldn't she be playing with dolls somewhere deep in the palace?
Mutsu...

Don't you dare think it will stop there!
Just try....
...mocking me for being a woman again...!
Remember that "Mutsu" or whatever your name is!
She might do well...
...as my partner
Well, isn't she an odd one?

Mutsu is just like me
He says Hira-same took him in
That I could be of use
I frantically learned the spells
I wanted to make Mutsu acknowledge...
...That I could do anything

It is Suigekka's wish that Saga and I go to the villages and exorcise the evil. So, Mutsu...
Yes
You will remain here and guard Suigekka. All will be well if I leave things in your care


Mutsu. Roka
You both know how long this drought has lasted

I am to accompany Hira-sama
Aren't you envious?
You don't know when to quit, do you?

Yes
Please leave it to me!

Only Mutsu survived...
...That sea of blood
Both of his eyes were gone
Three days later, Suigekka-sama was murdered
Let's both fulfill our duty admirably
Yes!
And then...

He intends to bow his head to the king forever and...
...obey his orders
Mutsu stays at the king's side out of loyalty...
...and in order to atone
Roka
ビクッ
Oh Mutsu! Did you come out and meet me?
I haven't yet found any jaki, but I will soon...
.....
King Hira has...
The king..

Wh-
What..?
He's-!

Kill...
Sugekka...
Kill the Shogoshi
My king...?
No matter how far they run.
I will see them dead
Awaken me.
Master.
D-Did He says he'll kill Sugekka-sama..?
King Hira..?

Awaken me!
...as you wish
Mutsu..!
This is not the king...!
Our king loved Suigekka-sama! He was tormented but her loss!
This is not Hira-sama...!!
He's become nothing but a demon...!
.....
I know.

What was my reason for living like this for so long?
Why have I...
And me..?
He knows, but he can't disobey..
King Hira -!
I cannot allow you to be awakened.-!

"You'll find that..."
"...you're of use to someone"
"It will be all right"
I cannot allow you...
...to live any longer...!!!
Rokn?!
Ko

Roka..!
Saga-sama...!!!
.....

Ngh...!
Time....

King Hira and...
...Mutsu...
All they see are distortions and delusions. They lose sight of what their soul should be
The passage of enough time drives people insane
...and me, too
Be strong now, Roka...

Saga... Sama...
I am always with the Shugoshi
My existance is bound to his
You're... alive?
When I heard your voice, I flew to your side
Please. .give the demon sword to Tamaki
...that's . convinient
I. .don't really understand, but..

How did it become like this?
When he became king of the Gekka, was it not your wish to be at his side?
Even if the king awakens, he won't survive long without the sword's power
I'm not saying I want the Otoya to win..
It's just that...
...I don't want the king to live like this any longer...!
"No...I must go"
"I am to blame for him becoming the King of the Gekka"
"It's all because I was unable to protect Suigekka-sama"
"Roka..."
"I will accompany king Hira"

...but the king has lost his soul. He's nothing but a shell full of hatred!
And still, he intends to continue to serve him...
It was because I wanted to support Mutsu...
"I will accompany the king too!"
Mutsu.
But...
...all I can now is entrust the sword to someone else. I can't stop the king
And I... don't have much time left
No...!
I don't want this!
I don't want Mutsu's suffering to continue!

It's sometimes the small things
...that make you of use to someone
You should let yourself relax...
...and let your soul restore itself
You love Mutsu, don't you?
You're the one that never changes

Uhn....
You still smile at me...
Kill Rota
...just as you did then
Ngh...!
What...?
Traitors shall be rewarded with death

Kill?
Kill me?
That is my command
Kill...
Roka
There's no need to trouble Mutsu
It's my life. I'll end it myself

Roka?!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!
My flesh... has begun to rot
.. I don't care
Earth it Mutsu
I've already..
...reached the end of my life

Mutsu
.....
Yes
I wanted so badly to be able to help you.....
i..
Those who are of no use should be promptly discarded
I...thought I said I'd end it myself...
Her presence has been–
You don't know how much she has supported me–I
Roka is...
...not "of no use"!

Oh!
Please let her go..
...in peace...!
Oh..
"It's sometimes the small things. ."
...Yes
It's so true...!
Yes, Saga-sama

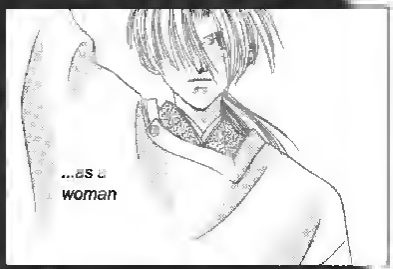
It's all right
My service to the king is my chosen penance, but you...
I wish for you to be free
Mutsu...
I'm sorry to be going before you...
We'll just be a man and a woman... just normal humans...
The two of us will...
...meet again
Mutsu...
...and we'll... be of use
Again...

...I want us to share our lives
Next time...
...with our souls just as they are...
Because ..
...I love you .
. .Roka
...Roka

Mutsu!
Roka is dead

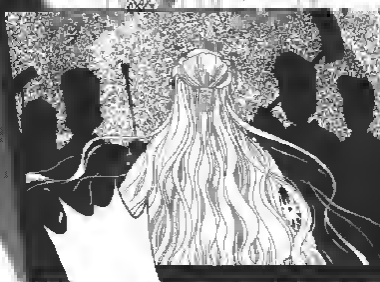
...I loved you...
Before I knew it...

"I'll tell my true feelings when you return"


...as a woman

You will serve me for the rest of your life

Unforgivable



SUIGEKKA-SAMA...!

...loved me so..
Please wait for me
I will most likely..
.....
...be following you soon
As I served my penance...
...how could I express my feelings?
"I will forget my feelings for you and treat you only as a partner"
"I should think of the king, first and foremost"
But you....

"Next time..."
"...with our souls just as they are..."
"...let's live together, Mutsu."
"All they see are distortions and delusions"
"They lose sight of what their soul should be"
"The passage of enough time drives people insane"
Let's meet again...
...as we promised...
幻影夢想④ おわり

Hello!

Sorry about the delay of this special chapter!
I really have no excuse other than, I work on
this when I feel like it, but then I feel bad
cus I know that there are people who want
to see the end of the series and it's so close.
So this special chapter concludes volume 4, and
there is only one more volume left, but since
I have given up my work on Zig*Zag (No it's not a
dead project, it's just that xx...Krash-chan...xx
has taken over the cleaning and typesetting, I'm just
providing the script now) So I can focus all my
energies (of which I have very little) on finishing
Phantom Dream and I'll see what I work on after.
Till then, enjoy this special chapter!
Catandmouse

幻影夢想
げんえいむそう
―外伝―

Unexpected Afterword

I think I'm the only one who was sad that Jyuge never got to shine. (Heh) She was the poster child for what happens if you let jaki grow, you're taken over by your desires. It's a shame I didn't get to draw her as much as I wanted. That's why I tried to draw her a lot in the end.

Wow...
.....
When did I get this power...?
Maybe...
...I can do the same to people...

It says there's an exhibit the day after tomorrow
I found it this morning
I like it!
Where did you get this, Mitsuru-chan?
I heard about that!
Kaoru Mashiba is that really young artist, right?
Ooh!
Kaoru Mashi
This picture is sooo pretty...!
Nope!
Seems like he hasn't done anything new for a couple of years
Um do you even know anything about art?
Mitsuru-chan, I love you!
Really?! Eeee, Thank you...!
You can keep that
Hey, isn't Asahi's Otoya-kun late today?
He really, really is! Maybe something happened?!
Come on, isn't he just on cleaning duty?

Tamaki-chan, I missed you...
Oof
Haven't you guys been going out since grade school, Asahi?
I can't believe you're not bored
Oh!
Tamaki-chan!!!
Give me a break, I was just on cleaning duty in the AV room
Meanie!
You hit me!
Meanie!
Meanie!
Hang...
Hang on, Otoya-kun! You can't treat her like that!
She's your girlfriend!
Oh!
It's all good, all good
!
Still, that's...
It's just how we show our love!

Tamaki-chan is the only son of this temple, and.
Asahi is Asahi, but..
...her home life's pretty harsh...
. he's also the monshu
Hey, now
Guys? Hello?
Oh, no!
I think Otoya-kun looked at me for a bit.
Bye bye..!
Otoya-kun is so mysterious!
He's quiet, but he really stands out. Maybe 'cus he's a priest?
Maybe just 'cus he's cute!
Well...
Thing is, Tamaki is Asahi's lifeline, you know?
And...
He and his mother have been caring for the temple ever since his father and grandfather passed away
And then, know what? Your Asahi messed up and we lost the basketball game!
Everyone was mad at me
That's not something to smile about

What s happening?
IT HURTS!
Something's coming!
Huh ?
Eek!
Come ..
...Shichi-boujin!
Wh—
What—?!
The Shichiboujin shield–I
Aaahh!

Creating defensive Shichiboujin shields....Creating shiki to do your will...Summoning a gohou, the spirit that protects you....
All the protective spells a Shugoshi learns.....
Tamaki-chan is the one who inherited them all
It's a jaki
Tamaki-chan...
But I don't feel its presence nearby.
Huh? The wind...
It's all better
I know I was just hurt...
Souichi
Seems like a jaki used jaryoku in the distance somewhere
Please find it
And...
...Tamaki-chan has the powers that come with being born into the Otoya family

...I can finally put an end to it
Everything...
People who're trapped by the darkness in their souls
...who tear others apart with their jaryoku
A Shugoshi's duty is to use their gohou, which is almost like a part of them, to exorcise Jaki
...can tear people apart
That means...
...are called Jaki
This power...
Your blood naturally attracts Jaki!
You don't get to lower your guard!
For starters, a Shugoshi should have his shieki searching all the time!

Huh?
Oh
That reminds me...
Asahi-chan, you're mother is back
Hmph!
It makes us both tired if I have him flying around too much
That's because you lack experience!
You're fighting again...
HEH! THE TRUTH HURTS, DOESN'T IT, MY IDIOTIC SON?!
SHUT UP, YOU OLD HAG!
She was drunk, as always
She came here looking for you
But you were in school
Are you sure you don't want me to walk you home?
That's ok, that's ok...!
She has issues, that's for sure...

.. are you really going to be all right?
When was the last time she was home?
Hmm..
Maybe six months ago?
"Tamaki-chan!"
"Tamaki-chan you know what?"
"Mama came home yesterday!"
See you tomorrow, m'kay? ♡
Yup! ♡
"Asahi-chan how did you get all those bruises?"
..she was spending the night at men's houses even when Asahi-chan was in grade school
And she has a bit of an alcohol problem
That woman...
"I fell_!"
Asahi had bruises all over
..but despite her upbringing, Asahi-chan is a good girl
It must've been hard raising a child alone, but .
. lost her husband before Asahi-chan was born

It was always the same thing whenever her mom came back
Mom, I'm home
Are you here?
Welcome back
Kinda late to be coming home isn't it?
I get it. You don't like me, right?
I figured I hadn't seen you in a while and decided to come home...
...and this is how you receive me? By coming home late?!
Ow, Ow...
Ouch!
That's ok, I hate you anyway

But I don't hate you, mother
You are my mom after all
The only reason I had you was because my husband asked me to ..
.. and then he went ahead and died leaving me all alone to deal with **you**. I almost went insane
That's right. I **am** your mother
That's why. .
...I can do whatever I want to you
"You are extraordinarily talented, Mashiba-kun."
"Maybe even a genius..."
"Is there anything in this world that you **can't** do?"
"...Mashiba-kun"
ハタイ!!

That must be...
...the perfect nightmare
Meow
"Much,much..."
"What's more amazing, you're very quiet and take orders very well You're a good kid."
I'm going to be an artist
Father
"So you're intersted in art, huh?"
"Really? I'll bet you'll make something great"
"You're a genius, after all."
"Wonderful, wonderful!"
"But I bet you can make something even better."
"Much,much better."
Hey...
Where did you come from, kitty?

What should I do,huh?
I can't draw anything anymore
People kept praising my work, but who cares?
That's ok, right?
I just happened to catch someone's eye because I'm slightly better than others
But everyone keeps on believing and waiting on me even though I haven't done anything in two years
It's funny, isn't it?
...for two years...
...I've reached my limit.That's the truth
Thank you...
...for listening to my complains
But all this will end tomorrow
You should go home now,ok?

It's Mashiba Kaoru, an artist
An artist...?
Tamaki-san...
I found him, Tamaki-san
Ta–
Hey, old hag
I'm not going to school to–
....maaaaki-chan! Good Morning!
Gah!
Again?!
?
You–

Huh?
...him?
Y-you mean...
No..
I'm not going to school today
Oh? Did you find the jak!? What kind of person is it?
An artist by the name of Mashiba Kaoru
I've heard of him. He's a young talent with a lot of potential
At least, that's what they said on TV
But he hasn't done anything in two years. I wonder if he's sick or something?
Who can know?
There is a saying that artists are more sensitive than most people
Maybe he pushed himself to his limit and snapped
Ah--!
Your Asahi really likes this picture
See? It's a road

Your mom reallly is ..
.. back, huh?
.. hidden bruises
.. Your Asahi is fine
Don't worry about me
Just because she's your mom doesn't mean it's alright for her to do this to you
.. defend her, why?
So many...
TAMAKI-CHAN!
It's ok, Tamaki-chan
You always..
I'm–

This story ran in the magazine. In terms of storyline, it's right after Souichi's exorcism..The cat is Kageha. I wonder if anyone noticed? I hope not. I get the feeling that a lot of people heard about PD from this story. Asahi and Kaname were popular from the start, and that didn't change with this story. People didn't like Asahi's mom, but I really wanted to write about there being some people that just don't get it. I wonder if Asahi's mom is lucky or unlucky not knowing?

This is not good
If I were to see her mom right now...
I'd probably hit her
So I never know how to react, either
And I get angry at my own impotence
Here it is— Mashiba Kaoru's home
Tamaki-san
That look she gets when she's thinking about it....
How much it pains her....
.and taking it all quietly
No matter how much I try to imagine what that must be like, I'll never be able to understand it

Yes? And who might you be?
My new exhibit opens tomorrow, so...
....there's going to be a an exclusive party tonight for all those involved
...Kaoru?
Mashiba...
You can't...
I'll leave once I exorcise you
I don't have time for you
I'm on my way over right now

Shichi-boujin!
...you can't
I need this power in order to kill all those present at the party tonight
The thing is they all believe...
..that I am somehow special
So they can't never find out...
...that the real me is really nothing but a pathetic and insignificant being

This is the only pride I have left
I want to protect it, and die in peace
Do you get it?
...my feelings?
Can't you understand...
You can't, so let me be
Don't try to stop me
...try and stop me!
Don't...

Is Tamaki-chan back yet?
I'm back...!
Farewell
You got a problem with that?
N-No, but...
I'll walk you to the station...
Really, you don't care?
Perhaps you are actually happy I'm leaving?
I figured you'd probably stop here first. I thought I should at least say bye
M Mom...?
Yeah. The guy I'm dating is completely helpless without me
Wha...?
You're leaving so soon?

You really...
...are an annoying brat
!?
ガラ
Excuse me?
Can't you see I'm disciplining my daughter?
Stop that right now
I'm her mother, right?!
So I can do what ever–
You're a pathetic woman

Doesn't that make you pathetic?
What..?!
Are you stupid..?!!!
There is nothing in this world more precious...
...than your own child
Are you going to go through life ignoring that fact?
I'm fine! About Tamaki-chan--
It's ok
Asahi-chan, let me see your injuries
I'll go look for him!
Please do
He's still not home
I wonder if something happened...?

That idiot son of mine
I wonder what he's doing?
ガラ ガラ
...gohou...
Sorry I used you as a shield...
キィィ
I messed up...
I should have summoned the gohou first
He's at the gallery
Let's go
Congrat-ulations, Mashiba-kun!

Goodbye.
This is great coming from someone so young
I'll go see it again
We're looking forward to your new work
Farewell
Must be nice, having such a big sponsor backing you up
Mashiba-kun, where have you been hiding these past two years?
Coming from you, I suspect it'll be something amazing!

Please forgive me
Where's Tamaki-chan...?
Everyone, please forgive me...
...but there was no other choice
Tamaki...!
...cha...
I'm just going to die anyway
Let me be. I'm ending it all tonight
Don't...!
EEK
Stop it! What are you trying to do?!
You can't give up now, you don't know what the future is holding for you...!
Don't do it...! You still have like 30 or 50 years left to live!

...and living..
...and living, is there any guarantee...
...of anything?
Why...
...did you say something so stupid?
If I continue living...
THERE IS NO GUARANTEE THAT I'LL FIND HAPPINESS! NONE!
Is that the common belief?
Is that how it is for everyone?
Am I really going to find happiness?

I might never paint again! Maybe all my paintings will be useless!
The more I think about that future, the, the more hopeless I become!
It is such a hopeless feeling that I am kept frozen in place!
So...!
B...
...but...
...if I stopped believing that, I...
So why...?
...why tell me such stupid, idealistic crap...?
Everyone just die!
Die!
MUST DIE...!

Didn't I tell you...
...NOT TO GET IN MY WAY!!!!
!!
The picture—!!!
NOO!!
I wondered
...if I'd walk this dark road on my own forever
I also thought that
Let's go...
...find Tamaki-chan, ok..?
Or you'll... really die, so...

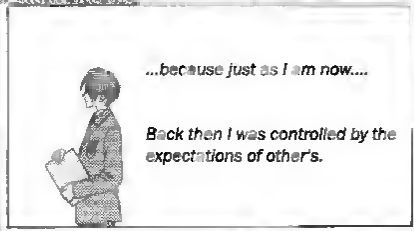
...if I don't....
Because.
...there is happiness waiting for you
Shut up
Please don't give up just yet...
I'm sure..
SHUT UP!
Something is waiting..
Maybe even right now..?
At the end of this lonely road....
Asahi!!
..believe that...
...I will fall apart ...

Stop it
...someone is waiting for me
With my words, I compel thee to appear
STOP!!!
Jou Kou.
Retsu

Shou!
The spell of protection...
It's healing the injuries inflicted by his jaryoku...
Your painting..
It's useless to me now...
Asahi seems to like this picture..
I don't need art anymore
It's ok, just hurry up and exercise me already...!
Then give it to me

That's right...
The reason I started painting was....
...and...
It's the first one I painted...
...is worthless
A painting like that...

The real me...
...had been exposed on that canvas
I...


...because just as I am now....
Back then I was controlled by the expectations of other's.

Suddenly....
...there I was

The words would not come out.
It was hard to express myself...

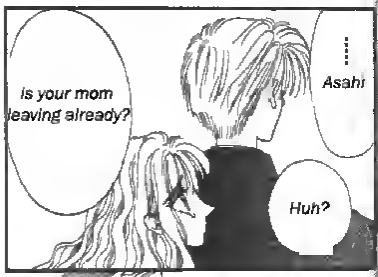
...that I turned to art

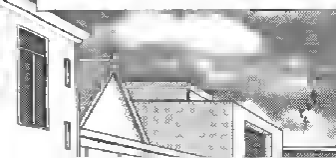
...happy
I was...
On the path I had chosen...
...I was happy
.....
Asahi...? Are you ok?
I...
I...
I...
...have you, Tamaki-chan, so everything is ok

...Tamaki-chan ..
..because I met you...
...I can keep on going...
Even if I'm hurt... No matter what anyone tells me...
My happiness...
I love you...!
I love you....
You were always there for me
...you were always there for me

Sorry, I can't...
...give you that painting
But I promise, I'll give you .. the next one I paint
Mashiba...
Maybe not now, maybe never...
...that day will never come
Huh..?
Ugh...
But..
.....
Ok...!
I'll be waiting...
Maybe .

...or I will fall apart





There's a lot of things I want to say .
...but...
...I'll just tell you this
SAY IT!!!
Sto–
What's with that dirty look?
.....
Is there something you want to tell me?
You're as annoying as your mother
Whatever- Just say what you have to say
Thank you...
.. for giving birth to Asahi

If I can get past this road...
If we can get past it, then I'm sure...
Come on, let's go home
Yup!
Mother probably has dinner waiting!
...That beyond it...
This road..
...beyond it...

幻影夢想　外伝／おわり